

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (Amended) A body-worn implement, comprising:

an evacuable a flexible sleeve having an inner surface encircling a portion of the body of a wearer creating a space between the inner surface and the wearer's skin; and

a port on the sleeve to facilitate evacuation of the space so that the inner surface makes intimate contact with the wearer's skin; and

an orthotic, prosthetic, or sport-related device attached to the sleeve.

2. (Original) The implement of claim 1, including a stiffening or hinged member attached to the sleeve.

3. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein the stiffening or hinged member is permanently or temporarily attached to the sleeve.

4. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein the stiffening or hinged member is attached to the sleeve using a male-female mechanical connector.

5. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein the stiffening or hinged member is attached to the sleeve using a hook-and-loop fastener.

6. (Original) The implement of claim 1, further including an intermediate layer disposed between the sleeve and the skin of a wearer.

7. (Original) The implement of claim 1, further including an intermediate, perforated layer disposed between the sleeve and the skin of a wearer.

8. (Currently Amended) The implement of claim 1, further including a cushioning or thermal-insulating layer inside the sleeve between the sleeve and the skin of a wearer.

9. (Original) The implement of claim 1, further including a cushioning or thermal-insulating outside the sleeve.

10. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:

the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above, below, or above and below a wearer's knee; and  
the orthotic device is a knee brace.

11. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:

the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above, below, or above and below a wearer's hip; and  
the orthotic device is a hip brace.

12. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:

the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above, below, or above and below a wearer's elbow; and  
the orthotic device is an elbow brace.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:

the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above, below, or above and below a wearer's wrist; and  
the orthotic device is a wrist brace.

15. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:

the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above, below, or above and below a wearer's ankle; and  
the orthotic device is an ankle brace.

16. (Currently Amended) The implement of claim 1, wherein:  
the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above, below, or above and below  
a wearer's hand; and  
the orthotic device is ~~an ankle~~ a wrist brace.

17. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:  
the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above a wearer's ankle; and  
the prosthetic device is an artificial foot or leg.

18. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:  
the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above a wearer's hand; and  
the prosthetic device is an artificial hand or arm.

19. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:  
the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above a wearer's foot; and  
the sport-related device is a shoe, boot, or fin.

20. (Original) The implement of claim 1, wherein:  
the evacuatable sleeve encircles a portion of the body above a wearer's hand; and  
the sport-related device is a glove or mitt.